Juniperus communis

JUNIPERUS COMMUNIS.

Common Juniper.

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*PLATE XLIV.**

THE prostrate variety of the common Juniper is so peculiar in its mode of growth, that it has some claims to be considered a distinct species. On comparing it, however, with European specimens, I find the similarity so great, that I do not see sufficient grounds for separating it, especially as there are, in Europe, several varieties in size and mode of growth, which are not recognized as separate species. The variety, which is the only one I have met with in the Northern States, is a large trailing shrub, continually throwing out roots from its branches, and spreading in all directions until it forms beds, which are many rods in circumference. In this way it continues to advance outward, supporting itself by new roots even after the original trunks, at the centre,

* Very beautiful drawings, from which this and the following plate are engraved, were sent me by a lady in Hampshire county.